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Status of Economic Denial Measures Against the USSR

An Intelligence Assessment

Confidential

ER 80-10378
June 1980

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*Research for this report was completed
on 12 June 1980.*



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Denial Measures
Against the USSR (U)**

Summary

Economic denial measures against the USSR have not drawn much support from our Allies. At best they have been reluctant partners with responses seemingly aimed more at placating Washington than punishing Moscow. All the West European countries and Japan have kept the door to the Soviet market ajar, and each has been mindful not to take a markedly tougher stand on sanctions than its neighbor. In large part because of this lack of cooperation, sanctions have had little impact so far. The single exception is the grain embargo, which has strained domestic feed supplies in the USSR and forced cutbacks in the important livestock sector. [Redacted]

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The USSR has been threatening to strike back against Western denial measures with sanctions of its own. We doubt the threats will turn into action, however, because of the increasingly severe problems a long-term embargo of technology transfer would impose on the Soviet economy. [Redacted]

25X

Contents

	<i>Page</i>
Summary	iii
Status of Sanctions	1
Agriculture	1
Technology	1
Olympic Boycott	1
Summit Country Positions	1
Concerns of Major Governments	2
The Soviet View	3
Impact on the Soviet Economy	4
Grain	4
Phosphate Fertilizers	4
Industry	5
Implications for the Future	5

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Next 4 Page(s) In Document Exempt

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